



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BRANSON MAN INDICTED FOR OBTAINING FALSE I.D., SOCIAL SECURITY FRAUD, ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF FIREARM

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that an Branson, Mo., man was indicted by a federal grand jury today for assuming a false identity using another person's name and Social Security number and illegally possessing a firearm.

Dennis Lynn Charlton, 52, of Branson, Mo., was charged in a four-count indictment returned by a federal grand jury in Springfield.

Count One of the federal indictment alleges that **Charlton** purposefully applied for a Missouri driver's license using the name and Social Security number of another person on June 24, 2003, in Branson West, Mo.

Count Two of the federal indictment alleges that **Charlton** made false statements regarding his true name and Social Security number when being interviewed by federal law enforcement officers on Oct. 3, 2003, in Branson West.

Count Three of the federal indictment alleges that **Charlton** made false statements regarding his true name and Social Security number again when being interviewed by federal law enforcement officers on Feb. 9, 2004, in Branson West.

Count Four of the federal indictment alleges that **Charlton** was in possession of a .410 gauge Montgomery Wards shotgun and a .22 caliber /.410 gauge Stevens Arms rifle/shotgun on Feb. 10, 2004, in Branson. Under federal statutes, Graves explained, it is illegal for any felon to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition. Charlton has a 1995 criminal felony conviction for driving while intoxicated in Macon County, Mo.

Graves cautioned that the charges contained in the indictment are simply accusations, and

not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charges must be presented to a federal trial jury, whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Douglas C. Bunch. It was investigated by the Office of the Inspector General for the Social Security Administration, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, the Branson, Mo., Police Department, the Branson West, Mo., Police Department and the Indian Point, Mo., Police Department.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at
www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow